
SUSTAINABLE FINANCE AND RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT ENTREPRENEUR AND INDEPENDENT BOARD DIRECTOR

Innovation in integrating sustainability in private and public equity, real estate and infrastructure to scale technology and nature-based solutions for the energy transition

Founder and former Chair of the Board and CEO of the Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (SASB). Entrepreneur and industry thought leader named by Barron's as one of the Top 20 Influencers of Sustainable Investing in 2018. Jean is a recognized leader with deep competency in sustainable finance and an innovation mindset, having established the materiality of sustainability information and the industry-based approach to analysis of material ESG factors now embedded in mainstream financial investment analysis. Most recently Jean was Global Head of ESG for Blackstone, overseeing integration of sustainability principles into hundreds of billions of investment across multiple asset classes, with a particular focus on energy transition and climate solutions. Jean sat on the Investment Committees for thematic energy transition funds, \$7B in private credit and \$5B in private equity, immersed in deal flow, structuring of finance to scale and grow solutions, positioning portfolio companies for sustainable value creation, and working with a vast swath of Blackstone's customers to deliver on their Net Zero and climate goals. Jean has a track record of delivering results- from founding and managing, SASB, a successful capital market start-up that provides the comparable information investors needed to catalyze the \$90T sustainable finance industry, to high impact projects that improve competitive performance and deliver ESG impact at scale. Proven ability to make sustainability "investable" and aligned with fiduciary goals for institutional investors - across asset classes, portfolios, sectors, and securities. Jean is comfortable working in an environment of "unknown unknowns," identifying the long-term competitive advantages of resilient companies and projects- with implications for sustainable investing in private and public equity, real estate and infrastructure.

KEY QUALIFICATIONS

- Sustainable finance
- ESG due diligence
- ESG integration and impact
- Competitive strategy
- Responsible investing
- Conservation finance
- Systems level change
- Implementation of big visions
- Thought leadership, public speaking
- ESG research and alternative data
- Financial product development, ESG ratings and indices

EDUCATION

HARVARD UNIVERSITY, Cambridge, Massachusetts

Loeb Fellowship in Environmental Studies (post doctoral)

ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, Chicago, Illinois

Doctor of Philosophy- Environmental Engineering

MANHATTAN COLLEGE, Riverdale, New York

Bachelor of Civil Engineering and Masters of Environmental Engineering

AWARDS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- PEI Energy Investor of the year, Blackstone Energy Transition Fund 2022, 2023 (with team)
- NACD Corporate Governance Top 50 Directors Award 2022
- Barron's Top 20 Influencers of Sustainable Investing, 2018
- INSEAD Society of Progress Medal Laureate, 2018
- GreenTech Capital Sustainable Hero, 2018
- Most Powerful Women in Accounting, *CPA Practice Advisor* 2015 and 2016
- Top 100 Most Influential People in Accounting by *Accounting Today* 2015, 2016, and 2017
- Harvard University, Loeb fellowship

CURRENT ADVISORY BOARD POSITIONS

- Jane Goodall Institute
- Woodwell Climate Research Institute
- NYSE Sustainability Advisory Group
- Australian Consulate Investor Advisory Group
- INSEAD's Global Institute for Business and Society;
- Terra Alpha Investments, Advisory Board
- Harvard Kennedy School, Beck Visiting Social Innovator (2019-2020) , Social Innovation and Change Program Advisor 2021

RESEARCH AND TEACHING

- Guest lectures at INSEAD, HBS, HKS, UC Berkeley, Columbia and USC in sustainable finance and social entrepreneurialism
- Research into pathways of materiality for sustainability issues with Professor George Serafeim at HBS

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

BLACKSTONE New York, NY

2021 – 2025

Global Head of ESG and Sustainability

Responsible for integration of ESG best practices into all asset classes (infrastructure, PE, private credit, real estate, and hedge funds) to drive alpha for clients as a fiduciary. Oversee implementation of policies, data integration, analysis and reporting, due diligence for deal flow, structuring of transactions and integration of ESG KPIs to drive performance. Sat on Investment Committees for thematic funds focused energy transition and climate solutions for \$7B private credit and \$5B private equity, evaluating deals in grid resilience, critical infrastructure, renewable power and climate solutions, and environmental assets. Liaise with Blackstone LPs (More than 150 investor meetings in 2023) to understand climate goals and Net Zero targets in strategic asset allocation. Sit on board of portfolio company, Xpansiv, and environmental commodities marketplace working on sovereign responses to Article 6 of Paris agreement, protocols for integrity of nature-based solutions underpinning NDCs and debt for nature swaps. Particular interest in wildlife trafficking and the ability to integrate KPIs with co-benefits into structured finance for conservation and carbon projects.

ROGERS ASSOCIATES, LLC Oakland, CA

2018 - 2021

Managing Director – Sustainable Finance Advisory Services

Consulting and advisory work with various financial organizations and companies regarding implementation of sustainable finance strategies based on SASB and beyond. Particular focus on integrating materiality-based and impact-driven approaches to sustainable investing across private equity, public equity, and infrastructure, and driving sustainability performance to achieve financial benefits. Projects include developing taxonomies for next-generation ESG factors, exploring the “investability” of SDGs in public and private equity, portfolio reporting on ESG performance, and integration of ESG considerations into research, ratings, and due diligence functions. Board member, Foran Mining and Shine Medical Technologies. Advisory roles included: Terra Alpha Investments, GIST Impact 360, Tang App, FiscalNote, INSEAD, HKS, Impact Weighted Accounts initiative, Long Term Stock Exchange and New York Stock Exchange.

SUSTAINABILITY ACCOUNTING STANDARDS BOARD San Francisco, CA

2011 – 2018

Founder and Chief Executive Officer,

Founder of a non-profit 501(c)3 focused on creation and dissemination of industry-specific sustainability standards for use by US publicly listed corporations to disclose their material environmental, social and governance impacts in Form 10-K filings. SASB enables peer-to-peer comparison on sustainability fundamentals for use by investors and the public.

- Led development of sustainability accounting standards for 79 industries across 11 sectors, establishing SASB as a globally recognized and respected component of 21st century market infrastructure.
- Achieved broad market buy-in, engaging with 2,800 professionals representing \$11T in market capitalization \$23T in assets under management, as well as deep consultation with 141 companies, 19 industry associations, and 38 institutional investors. Worked with HBS and other academic and commercial partners to validate SASB's materiality approach.

- Developed key strategic partnerships, including with regulatory bodies (SEC, FASB, PCAOB), professional organizations (AICPA, CAQ, IMA, FEI, NACD), “Big 4” accounting firms, stock exchanges (NYSE, Nasdaq) and created an Investor Advisory Group (IAG) comprised of 32 leading asset owners and asset managers collectively managing \$33T AUM.
- Drove early corporate adoption of SASB Standards among key industry leaders—including JetBlue, Nike, GM, NRG Energy, and Marriott—setting the stage for broad market uptake and BlackRock endorsement.
- Raised over \$25M in grants, while transitioning to financial independence via diverse revenue streams, leveraging SASB intellectual property for tools (e.g., Materiality Map, SICS), publications, licensing opportunities (SASB Index), events (e.g., SASB Symposium), and educational programs (e.g., Fundamentals of Sustainability Accounting credential).

ARUP NORTH AMERICA, LTD San Francisco, CA

2002 – 2011

Principal – Sustainable Infrastructure and Green Buildings

Leader of the sustainability practice in the Americas Region for Arup, a global engineering consultancy, with P/L responsibility. Directed projects for clients in the government, real estate, utilities, infrastructure, and manufacturing sectors focusing on strategy and implementation to achieve improved performance across the triple bottom line.

- Led strategic planning efforts to integrate sustainability across business lines and operating units, for clients such as NYPA, SFPUC, AMB, ProLogis, and SITRA. Strategy, implementation, evaluation, reporting, and change management.
- Worked with SITRA, the national venture capital fund of Finland, to evaluate replicable technologies, policies, and finance mechanisms to be deployed across their portfolio and to transition key Helsinki industries to zero carbon.
- In partnership with The Climate Group, wrote “The Business Guide to the Low Carbon Economy: California.” Led climate action plans and evaluated climate risks and SEC disclosure requirements for global clients.
- Worked with the leaders of Arup’s 20 Global Lines of Business to integrate sustainability into service offerings and develop external value propositions and a toolkit for selling sustainability to clients.
- Thought leadership in developing Key Performance Indicators and evaluating the materiality of sustainability issues by sector, working with the Initiative for Responsible Investment at Harvard University and the Global Reporting initiative. Co-authored paper that ultimately became the blueprint for SASB.
- Led groundbreaking sustainable development projects from \$350M to over \$1.1B such as the California Academy of Sciences bid for LEED Platinum, and the redevelopment of Treasure Island, Hunters Point, Ecoblocks in China, and directed Arup’s pilot projects under the Clinton Climate Initiative Climate Positive Development Program.

RAZORFISH, San Francisco, CA

1999 - 2002

Director of Strategy – Sustainable Digital Solutions

Advised corporate clients, from start-ups to Fortune 10, regarding digital strategies and sustainable solutions.

- Led numerous engagements involving operations review, market research, sustainability and competitive assessments, economic valuation, and strategy formulation. Selected clients include Chemdex, McKinsey, 3Com, Cisco, Sun Microsystems, Bechtel Enterprises, TheScience, Palm, Genentech, and Ford.
- For Dell Ventures, led strategic engagement to improve the efficiency of managing equity investments in supplier companies. Evaluated needs of 23 portfolio companies from initial investment through exit and developed strategy for operations portal.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY, Cambridge, MA

1997 - 1998

Loeb Fellow – Post-Doctoral Appointment – Research and Teaching Environmental Studies

- Awarded prestigious Loeb Fellowship in Environmental Studies to conduct post-doctoral research and lecture in the Harvard Graduate School of Design. Focused on scenario planning and sustainable design. Produced sustainability conference on “Manufactured Sites: Designing Factories for the Future.” Contributing author to book of same name.

DELOITTE CONSULTING, San Francisco, CA

1994 - 1997

Management Consultant – Environmental Practice

Worked with clients in the manufacturing and infrastructure sectors to develop solutions to their financial, business process, strategic planning, and operational issues related to their environmental impacts.

- Conducted strategic environmental planning and business process redesign engagements for consumer products and tech clients such as Toshiba, Hewlett-Packard, Pacific Bell, Hughes Aircraft, and United Technologies. Developed and implemented life cycle design framework to improve carbon footprint of products.

- Assisted infrastructure clients such as the Puerto Rico Ports Authority (PRPA) to attract private investment and support long term sustainable development goals. Developed initiatives to improve bond ratings, obtain financing for development, improve cash flow from existing assets and form strategic private sector alliances.

MONTGOMERY WATSON, Walnut Creek, CA and Deventer, NL

1990 - 1994

Project Engineer and Director of European Projects

Held roles with increasing responsibility from field engineer, to project manager, to director of European Projects, working with industrial and manufacturing clients throughout the US and Europe to mitigate environmental risks, implement environmental management systems, finance environmental investments and account for liabilities.

- Conducted risk assessments and environmental audits for operating chemical and manufacturing facilities in the US, UK, Germany, Italy, Belgium and the Netherlands. Clients included the US AirForce, ARCO Chemical, Agip, British Petroleum, HP.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, AND MEDIA COVERAGE

[“How Issues Become Material”](#) Institutional Shareholder Services (ISS), Foreword to 2019 ESG Trends report, May 2019

[“My 7 years at SASB: The Origin Story”](#) Reporting Times, No. 14 p. 11, Center for Corporate Reporting, Zurich, Switzerland, April, 2019

[“A Horse Named Materiality,”](#) Responsible Investor, March, 2019

[“Material Girl”](#) Podship Earth feature podcast; January, 2019

[“The 20 Most Influential People in ESG Investing,”](#) *Barron’s* (June 23, 2018)

[“Setting the Standard,”](#) Greentech Capital Advisors, *Sustainable Heroes* (Q1, 2018)

[On the Shoulders of Giants](#), Society for Progress acceptance speech delivered at INSEAD (June 16, 2018)

[“Profession in Focus,”](#) Center for Audit Quality, interview with Cynthia M. Fornelli (April 18, 2018)

[“Can the GRI and SASB reporting frameworks be collaborative?”](#) *GreenBiz*, dual Interview with GRI CEO Tim Mohin on the harmonization of sustainability reporting frameworks (January 2, 2018)

[Market Forces at Work](#), SASB Symposium opening remarks delivered at Fordham University (November 30, 2017)

[“The Next Phase in Sustainability Disclosure Is Coming,”](#) *Bloomberg*, interview with Emily Chasan (October 12, 2017)

[“Modernizing Markets Is a Collective—Not an Individual—Undertaking,”](#) *The Huffington Post*, op-ed on the need for collective action to move markets (September 8, 2017)

[Sustainability Accounting: From Earth Day to Every Day](#), Meonske Professional Development Conference keynote address delivered at Kent State University (April 27, 2017)

[“Sustainability Accounting Standards Represent Market — Not Regulatory — Forces at Work,”](#) *Investor’s Business Daily*, commentary on how investors view sustainability issues as business issues (April 25, 2017)

[“What’s Next for Standard Setting at SASB?”](#) *Financial Advisor Magazine*, interview with Paul Ellis about the future of SASB (April 11, 2017)

[Beginner’s Mind: The Essential Point of View for Innovation](#), speech on innovation to commemorate the 10-year anniversary of the Center for Audit Quality (January 30, 2017)

[Sustainability Accounting, Corporate Governance, and Public Policy](#), speech delivered at the University of Tennessee’s C. Warren Neel Corporate Governance Center (January 27, 2017)

[“Investors Will Get the Corporate Sustainability Disclosure They Want.”](#) *The Hill*, op-ed on the future of corporate sustainability disclosure and an analysis of public comments on the SEC’s Regulation S-K Concept Release (December 19, 2016)

[“Investors Want More Firms to Be More Open. This Nonprofit Is Trying to Make It Happen.”](#) *New York Times*, DealBook profile on Jean Rogers and SASB’s impact on the capital markets (November 15, 2016)

[“Sustainability Disclosure: A Matter of Public Trust.”](#) *CFO Magazine*, op-ed co-written with Alan Beller about the need for more transparency around sustainability in the market (October 31, 2016)

[“Millennials and Women Redefine What It Means to Be a Reasonable Investor”](#) *Institutional Investor*, article about changing demographics and expectations in financial markets (October 20, 2016)

[“To Price Sustainability Risk, You Need an Industry View,”](#) *Institutional Investor*, article about the need to translate sustainability into the language of financial analysis (August 23, 2016)

[“Climate Risk Is Poorly Represented in Company Financial Filings,”](#) *Scientific American*, article on incomplete disclosure of climate-related risks in SEC filings (August 11, 2016)

“Measuring What Matters: Industry Specificity Helps Companies and Investors Gain Traction on Sustainability” *Journal of Applied Corporate Finance*, article co-written with former FASB Chairman Robert Herz about the need for an industry-specific lens on sustainability (July 11, 2016)

[“The Next Frontier in Sustainability”](#) *Strategic Finance*, article about the future of corporate sustainability accounting (June 1, 2016)

[“5 Market Problems the SEC Can Help Solve Through Regulation S-K,”](#) *The Huffington Post*, op-ed on the SEC’s Regulation S-K Concept Release and how it relates to sustainability reporting (May 13, 2016)

[“SASB Completes Provisional Sustainability Standards.”](#) *Accounting Today*, announcement about SASB completing development of provisional sustainability accounting standards for 79 industries in 10 sectors (April 7, 2016)

[“Give Stockholders Better Tools to be Socially Responsible Investors.”](#) *MarketWatch*, op-ed co-written with Lisa Woll on increasing corporate transparency on ESG data to improve investor decision making (March 8, 2016)

[“Integrated Reporting: Solution to a Global Reporting Challenge,”](#) *The Huffington Post*, op-ed co-written with Paul Druckman of IIRC (March 3, 2016)

[“Better than boilerplate: More detailed disclosures benefit investors.”](#) SASB website, blog post on academic research showing improved risk assessment and price discovery with more detailed disclosure (September 25, 2015)

[“Why Investors Can’t Avoid Climate Risk by Divesting,”](#) *Wall Street Journal*, op-ed on the ineffectiveness of divestment strategies when risks are systematic (September 14, 2015)

[“Why Investors Should Look Beyond a Company’s Financials.”](#) *Fortune Magazine*, op-ed on the importance of intangible assets to a company’s valuation (August 11, 2015)

[“To Serve Investors, Accounting Must Evolve.”](#) *Accounting Today*, op-ed about the market need for sustainability accounting. (May 5, 2015)

“Organizations need to account for all forms of capital,” *The CPA Journal*, article on the need for companies to look beyond traditional financial metrics (April 2015)

[“A Good Corporate Accounting of Social Costs is Needed”](#) *New York Times*, op-ed dispelling the notion that sustainability performance is incompatible with fiduciary duty (April 16, 2015)

[“Focusing Corporate Sustainability Ratings on What Matters,”](#) *The Huffington Post*, op-ed co-written with Allen White on the need for better sustainability ratings (April 15, 2015)

[“The Environment and the Bottom Line,”](#) *Wall Street Journal*, interview with Jeffrey Ball at ECO:nomics conference (March 30, 2015)

[“Focus on Materiality or Be Blinded by the Light.”](#) SASB website, blog post on the importance of materiality to help balance transparency and privacy in capital markets (March 16, 2015)

[“The SEC and Capital Markets in the 21st Century: Evolving Accounting Infrastructure for Today’s World.”](#) *Brookings Institute*, paper co-authored with Robert Eccles on the history of the U.S. capital markets, securities law, and accounting infrastructure (September 23, 2014)

[“Taking Impact Investing and Accounting Full Tilt.”](#) *Stanford Social Innovation Review*, article co-authored with Clara Miller on the role of philanthropic foundations in impact investing (July 18, 2014)

“Corporate Disclosure of Material Information: The Evolution—and the Need to Evolve Again,” *Journal of Applied Corporate Finance*, paper co-authored with former FASB Chairman Robert Herz on the evolution of accounting standards (December 23, 2013)

[“What Is Integrated Reporting?”](#) *Nasdaq*, interview about the complementary approaches of sustainability accounting and integrated reporting (June 4, 2013)

[“U.S. Companies urged to put natural capital in accounts.”](#) *Financial Times*, interview about SASB (June 24, 2012)

[“The Need for Sector Specific Materiality and Sustainability Reporting Standards.”](#) *Journal of Applied Corporate Finance*, article co-authored with Robert Eccles, Mike Krzus, and George Serafeim on applying an industry lens to sustainability (Spring 2012)

From Low Carbon to No Carbon, featured speaker at [Low2No Conference](#) in Helsinki, Finland, sponsored by Sitra, the Finnish Innovation Fund (February 2011)

[“Integrated Reporting and Key Performance Indicators.”](#) section co-authored with Steve Lydenberg in the Harvard Business School e-book *The Landscape of Integrated Reporting: Reflections and Next Steps* by Robert G. Eccles, Beiting Cheng, and Daniela Saltzman (November 22, 2010)

[“From Transparency to Performance: Industry-Based Sustainability Reporting on Key Issues.”](#) *Hauser Center for Nonprofit Organizations and the Initiative for Responsible Investment, Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University*, paper co-authored with Steven Lydenberg and David Wood (June 2010)

From Transparency to Performance: Industry-Specific Key Performance Indicators, featured speaker at TBLI (Triple Bottom Line Investor) Conference in London (November 2010)

[Metrics for Responsible Property Investing: Developing and Maintaining a High-Performance Portfolio](#), Urban Land Institute’s Responsible Property Investing Council, paper co-authored with Lisa Galley and David Wood (November 2009)

“A More Durable Green,” *Risk and Insurance*, interview with Matthew Brodsky about green building, sustainability, carbon footprints, and loss prevention (October 2009)

[“The Art and Science of Renzo Piano.”](#) PBS Series *e² Design* (Season 3, Episode 4), featuring Dr. Rogers on the sustainable design of the California Academy of Sciences, narrated by Brad Pitt (2009)

The Green Dragon, Green Dragon Media Project, film telling the story of a turning point in the great urbanization of China, featuring Dr. Rogers on sustainable development (2008)

[“The Business Guide to the Low Carbon Economy: California.”](#) paper on California’s low-carbon future co-authored with The Climate Group (2008)

[Sustainable Development: From Changing the Environment, to Changing Behavior](#), speech delivered as the annual Stephan Weiss Visiting Lectureship at The New School for Design (February 27, 2007)

[“A Sustainable Business Model for GRI.”](#) *Arup Journal*, white paper co-authored with Andrea Fernandez explores how GRI can remain independent while developing a new set of sustainability reporting guidelines (G3) (March 2005)

“We have financial fundamentals, so why not sustainability fundamentals?” *Ethical Corporation*, commentary on how public disclosure of sustainability fundamentals can drive performance (February 2005)